

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 863  
By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to recognize Esther Gurkin on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of service; and

WHEREAS, Esther Gurkin served with acumen and alacrity as a valued employee of the Tennessee Department of Human Services (DHS), where she formed a large number of friendships during her many years of devoted service; after more than fifty-two years with DHS she has taken a much deserved retirement, having earned the respect of her associates and her staff alike for the exceptional quality of her service; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gurkin is a longtime resident of Fayette County and a well-known and highly respected member of the Moscow community; and

WHEREAS, Esther Gurkin was educated at Nashville Business College and Peabody Teachers College; on January 1, 1950, she took a position with DHS in Decatur County, and soon moved to the Food Stamp division in Fayette County in 1951; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Mrs. Gurkin was promoted to Supervisor, a position she held for eighteen years; a consummate professional of the utmost integrity, she was promoted to Area Manager in January of 1993, and on January 31, 2006, she took a well deserved retirement from that position; and

WHEREAS, many of Esther Gurkin's family and friends assembled on January 31, 2006, to congratulate her and express their appreciation for her years of service; indeed, the Mayor of Fayette County proclaimed that day be set aside in honor of Esther Gurkin for all her good works and accomplishments in Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, a public-minded citizen of the highest order, Mrs. Gurkin is a vital and important part of the Fayette County community, serving in numerous worthy organizations, including Fayette Cares and the Family First Council; and

WHEREAS, Esther Gurkin is an active and devout member of the Moscow United Methodist Church, which she has served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, devoted to her family, Mrs. Gurkin is the mother of two sons, Whit and Daniel; she continues to miss the love and companionship of her late husband, J.C. Gurkin; and

WHEREAS, Esther Gurkin exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Mrs. Gurkin has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues, her community, and the citizens of Fayette County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize Esther Gurkin for her meritorious service to the citizens of Fayette County and the great State of Tennessee, and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.